

WATER QUALITY M E M O R A N D U M

Utah Coal Regulatory Program

January 21, 2010

TO: Internal File

THRU: James D. Smith, Permit Supervisor *JS 01/21/10*

FROM: Kevin Lundmark, Environmental Scientist II *KWL*

RE: 2009, 3rd Quarter Water Monitoring, Plateau Mining Corp. (PMC), Star Point Mine, C0070006, WQ09-3, Task ID #3389

The Star Point Mine is in reclamation. The mines have been closed and sealed since the spring of 2000. The disturbed areas around the portals have been regraded to AOC and seeded. Phase II Bond Release for 95.3 acres of land was approved January 2009. The reclamation water monitoring schedule for the Star Point Mine is provided in Table 731.211a in Chapter 7 of the MRP. The water quality analysis schedule is shown in Table 731.211b.

This report was prepared from monitoring data queried from the UDOGM database. The data that support this report were collected and submitted to the database by the Operator. The data were downloaded into file O:\007006.STP\Water Quality\Data\STP_14Jan2010.xls for this review.

1. Was data submitted for all of required sites?

Springs YES [X] NO []

Spring 971 is required to be monitored monthly during May and July through September. If snow prevents access during May the operator monitors in June. Spring 971 was monitored in July, August and September 2009 and was reported to be dry at each monitoring event.

Streams YES [X] NO []

Surface Water sites ST-1 (North Fork of Right Fork Miller Creek) and 10-1 (Sage Brush Canyon above permit boundary) are to be monitored quarterly. No flow was reported at site 10-1 and site ST-1 was reported with a flow of 6 gpm.

Wells YES ☐ NO ☐

Not applicable. There are no active wells at the site.

UPDES YES ☐ NO ☐

Not applicable. All UPDES discharge points have been reclaimed and the associated discharge monitoring points were inactivated by the DEQ Division of Water Quality in November 2004, therefore UPDES monitoring is no longer performed or reported to DEQ.

2. Were all required parameters reported for each site?

Springs YES ☒ NO ☐

No flow was reported for spring 971.

Streams YES ☒ NO ☐

The required parameters were reported for site ST-1. No flow was reported at site 10-1.

3. Were irregularities found in the data?

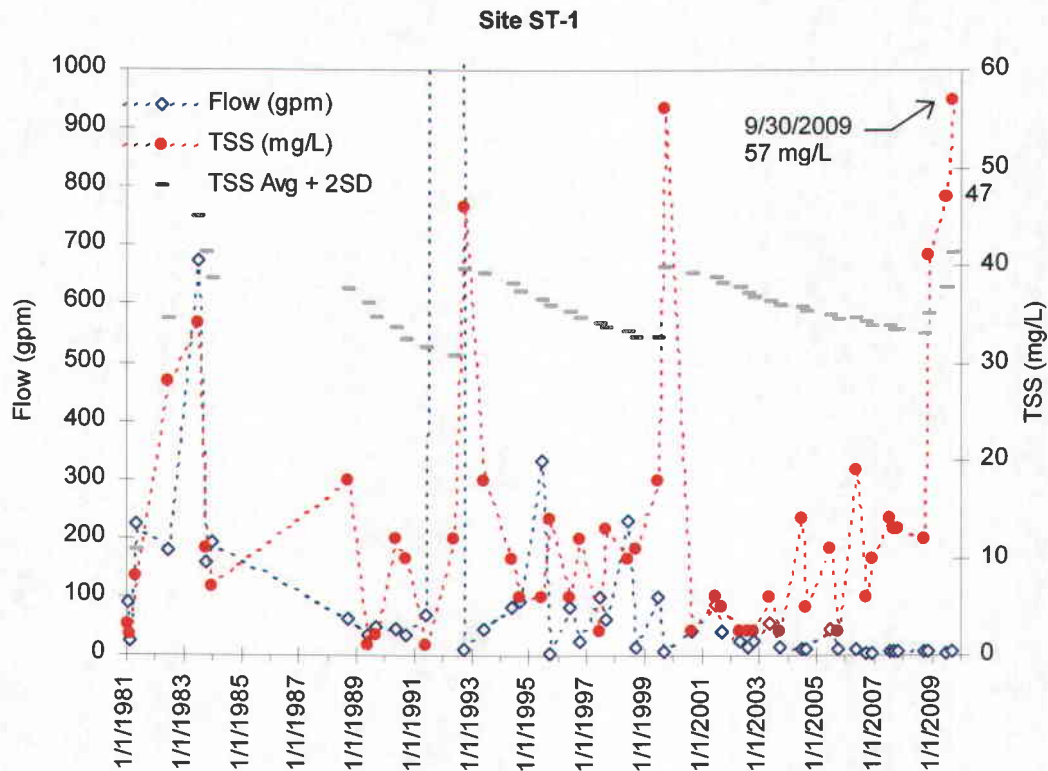
Springs YES ☐ NO ☒

Streams YES ☒ NO ☐

The total suspended solids concentration of 57 mg/L in the sample collected September 30, 2009 at stream site ST-1 is elevated. The average TSS at this site is 16 mg/L with a standard deviation of 14 mg/L. The elevated TSS result for 3rd Quarter 2009 does not appear to be due to high flow within the stream, as the reported flow was relatively low (6 gpm) compared to the reported average flow at site ST-1 of 102 gpm (MRP Chapter 7 Exhibit 728h). Applicable water quality criteria for TSS are not established for comparison; however, the discharge limitations for TSS in UPDES Permit UT0023736 for the Star Point Mine were 25 mg/L (30-day), 35 mg/L (7-day), and 70 mg/L (daily maximum).

The Operator has indicated that there is evidence of logging activities and cattle ranching occurring in the area which may be contributing suspended solids to the North Fork Right

Fork Miller Creek.



4. On what date does the MRP require a five-year resampling of baseline water data.

Resampling for baseline water quality parameters is required during year five of the mining permit (the year preceding permit renewal). The current permit expires January 28, 2012.

5. Based on your review, what further actions, if any, do you recommend?

None

6. Does the Mine Operator need to submit more information to fulfill this quarter's monitoring requirements?

Yes []

No [X]